

ANDERSON; and JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT, ranking minority member of the committee; NORM MINETA, chairman of the Surface Transportation Subcommittee, whose own district suffered major earthquake damage; and HENRY NOWAK, chairman of the Subcommittee on Water Resources, for all of their assistance in helping me prepare this bill. I have appreciated so much all of the support they have given me in recent weeks.

I sincerely hope, Mr. Speaker, that with your support and that of my distinguished colleagues on the Public Works Committee, this bill will pass the House very soon. The people of the Virgin Islands are in desperate need.

ACCESS CHARGES FOR ENHANCED SERVICE PROVIDERS AND COMMERCIAL RADIO OPERATOR EXAMINATIONS

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 1989

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of clarification, I submit for my colleagues' information two issues not explicitly addressed in the committee report on H.R. 3265, the Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1989.

For over 2 years, I and many of my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Telecommunications and Finance have been concerned about the potentially harmful impact that access charges levied on enhanced service providers [ESP's] might have on the development of the information services industry and the consumers and institutions they serve.

As has been articulated on numerous occasions through subcommittee hearings and correspondence, my colleagues and I are convinced that requiring ESP's, as users of the network, to pay carrier access charges would seriously injure the enhanced services industry, render advanced information services unaffordable for many residential and small business consumers, and impede America's competitiveness.

In the past, the Federal Communications Commission [FCC] has raised, rejected, and raised once again the idea of assessing ESP access charges. Each time, the cacophony of voices, both public and private, opposed to such a fee has drowned out the few supporting the idea. If the United States is going to have information services develop to its fullest potential—with affordable access to all those who need it—there needs to be in place a regulatory commitment to ensuring these goals. Let us, therefore, lay this matter to rest once and for all. The ESP access charge issue should not be resurrected again. ESP's should not be forced to pay usage-sensitive access charges for access to the interstate network either directly or by backdoor devices such as a precondition to obtaining any of the open network architecture services.

During the subcommittee's September 14, 1989, FCC authorization hearing, Chairman Sikes stated that he does not intend to require ESP's to pay carrier access charges in order to obtain access to the interstate telephone network. Because of the clarity of the Chairman's statement, and the good faith assur-

ances we have received from the Commission since then, this issue was not addressed in the accompanying legislation. The Commission appears to understand the strength of our concern on this matter. Nonetheless, I intend to conduct active oversight of this issue and, if the Commission varies from these expressed concerns, we intend to take appropriate and prompt action.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to address another issue in the FCC authorization report dealing with the commercial radio operator examinations. I want to make clear that it is the committee's intention that the Commission shall also ensure that examinations thoroughly test commercial radio operator candidates on all statutory and regulatory duties and that these examinations are revised periodically to reflect the introduction of new technology. The Commission will, of course, consider all applicants as to how they can be best used to meet the requirements of this provision.

TRIBUTE TO MARLA GIBBS

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 1989

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished citizen of Los Angeles, Marla Gibbs. She is not only an internationally acclaimed actress, she is also a visionary philanthropist and dedicated activist. She is being honored at the Juvenile Justice Connection Project Circle Awards Dinner [JJCP]. As the recipient of the JJCP's prestigious William Shatner Award, Marla is being recognized for her devotion to helping children grow into successful members of the community.

Marla is devoted to helping others. In addition to her substantial work for the Juvenile Justice Connection Project, she is the founder of Concerned Helpers of Inner Community Endeavors [CHOICE], a nonprofit group set up to fund other nonprofit agencies dealing with a variety of urgent concerns.

In 1982, Marla witnessed the fulfillment of a long held dream. The Crossroads Arts Academy—a center for the development of the creative arts—opened its doors in the heart of Los Angeles' inner city Crenshaw district. Crossroads has become a key facilitator in linking and enhancing a diverse and multicultural neighborhood and is a model for similar operations throughout the country.

Marla's professional work has been acclaimed by both her peers and her fans. The NAACP has presented her with its prestigious Image Award for best actress in a comedy series seven times. She was nominated for the best supporting actress Emmy for 4 consecutive years and was the first recipient of the Essence Women Award.

Marla is the mother of Jordan, Dorian, and Angela and the grandmother of Amil.

It is with pleasure and pride that I ask my colleagues to salute Marla Gibbs—an exemplary citizen, a dedicated professional and a compassionate and effective activist in our community.

JAPAN'S INVASION: A MATTER OF FAIRNESS

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 1989

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to submit for the RECORD an insightful article regarding foreign investment in this country, written by Peter G. Peterson and published in the Wall Street Journal on Friday, November 3, 1989. It is my thought that my colleagues might find it instructive.

JAPAN'S INVASION: A MATTER OF FAIRNESS

(By Peter G. Peterson)

Is the U.S. suffering from a dangerous Japanese invasion? The American public seems to believe so. Opinion polls show Americans fear Japanese competition more than Soviet aggression and believe that growing Japanese investment here is a bad thing.

As an investment banker involved in some trans-Pacific mergers and acquisitions, I believe that foreign investment here can be very positive. Japan's Bridgestone is now investing \$1 billion in a productivity renovation—far more than Firestone's former American owners could have invested—that should ensure that Firestone remains competitive and its American workers keep their jobs. Similarly, when the current controversy over the Sony-Columbia Pictures deal dissipates, the positive side will become clearer: Sony's intent is to arrest Columbia's drift and help the studio realize its potential as an American-based leader in global entertainment.

Whatever the merits of such deals, however, the fears of Americans are real—however heightened by media pandering to American xenophobia and latent racism. The U.S. edition of Newsweek sounded a martial note in its cover story on Sony's purchase of Columbia: "Japan Invades Hollywood." In the Japanese edition, that same cover was toned down to "Japan Moves Into Hollywood." Apart from that stunning difference of nuance, it is worthwhile to ask why Newsweek saw Sony's move as so controversial that it warranted a cover story, while a similar Australian deal (Gintex's planned takeover of MGM/UA) was mainly treated by the media as a minor business-news item.

THE RELEVANT CONTEXT

Some Japanese say: "It isn't right for Americans to criticize Japan for buying so much. British, Canadian and Dutch investors buy many companies in the U.S. too. Nobody worries about a British, Canadian or Dutch invasion!" Indeed, Japan is popularly vilified as the chief foreign "invader," even though its direct investments in the U.S. amount to half the British total and about the same as the Dutch. Japan ranks only fourth in the most sensitive investment area: manufacturing. Few reporters covering the "invasion" bother to set the issue in the relevant context: American firms, which began a long global investment binge in the 1950s, still earn three times as much from their foreign investments as foreigners do here.

Some Japanese also remark: "America's big twin deficits are the fundamental problem. Why not solve these instead of criticizing Japan?" I would like to think that I have as long a record as anyone of trying to convince Americans that so long as our savings rate remains low, our cost of capital high and our budget deficits massive, the U.S.'s unprecedented trade and current-ac-